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**THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ADD FREE BENEFIT TO MILITARY CHILDREN
THROUGH BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA PARTNERSHIP**

The Navy and Marine Corps has joined forces with Boys & Girls Clubs of America to offer children of sailors and marines [free programs and services](#) at their local Clubs.

MISSION: Youth Outreach allows the children of military personnel living off-installation the same benefits as those on Active Duty and Mobilized Reserve. This program shows support for military families by expanding the reach of its after-school and summer programs, which focus on personal development, the arts, education, recreation and health.

In a time of uncertainty, the lives of our military youth are disrupted by one or both parents being activated, deployed, redeployed or relocated. Through this cooperative agreement – *Mission: Youth Outreach* – local Boys & Girls Clubs are ready to serve our youth by providing various programs and services at no cost to their family.

“In this time of high deployment, there are thousands of military youth living far from the support services a military base. These youth need traditional Club services. That is where their local Boys and Girls Clubs come in to help,” says Larrie’ Ann Jarvis from Commander Navy Installations Command.

Parents can find a Club in their area by calling (800) 854-CLUB or going online to www.bgca.org. Either way will connect you to information about a local Club that is ready to assist in the membership process and give your child access to a safe, fun and positive place.

Boys & Girls Clubs currently provide supervised programming by trained youth development professionals to 470 on-base Clubs around the world. *MISSION: Youth Outreach* will help increase the range of support to the over 4,700 off-base Boys & Girls Clubs.

“We have similar values and principles, so a partnership with the Navy and Marine Corps was a natural fit for our organization,” explains Roxanne Spillett, BGCA president. “This is just our way of giving something back in return for all that the military gives to America.”

Boys & Girls Clubs of America work to nurture and enrich the lives of young people so that they are empowered to become caring citizens who understand the importance of living honorably. BGCA currently serves some 4.4 million youth ages 6 to 18 worldwide with the goal of serving 5 million by .2006.

For more information about *MISSION: Youth Outreach*, obtain information for your unit briefs, or to find out how to enroll your child in the program, please call **Tom Scheer, Director, Military Services**, at **404.487.5865** or tscheer@bgca.org.